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## FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Attn: Examiner Timothy Vanoy  
Art Unit 1764

FAX NO.: 703-872-9310

DATE: January 8, 2002

FROM: Carol G. Mintz

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CLIENT NO.: 1856-00301

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS ONE) 10

COMMENTS: Re: U.S. Pat. App. No. 09/625,710

The following documents are attached:

Transmittal Form (1 pg)  
Preliminary Amendment (4 pgs)  
Marked up Version of the Amendments (2 pgs)  
Replacement Sheet for Figure 2 of the Drawings (1 pg)  
Marked up Version of the Replacement Sheet for Figure 2 of the  
Drawings (1 pg)

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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission \*

Application Number	09/625,710
Filing Date	July 25, 2000
First Named Inventor	Alfred E. Keller
Group Art Unit	1764
Examiner Name	T. Vanoy
Attorney Docket Number	1856-00301

### ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment (for an application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <i>Preliminary Amendment, with replacement sheet for Figure 2 and Certificate of Transmission</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<i>2/20/02</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	<i>2/20/02</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<i>2/20/02</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
	Remarks	

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Or Individual Name	Carol G. Mintz CONLEY ROSE & TAYON
Signature	<i>Carol G. Mintz</i>
Date	January 8, 2002

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date.

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Alfred E. KELLER, § Art Unit: 1764  
Serial No.: 09/625,710 §  
Filed: July 25, 2000 § Examiner: T. Vanoy  
For: Process for Producing Syngas §  
in a Short Contact Time Reactor §  
Using Catalytic Partial Oxidation of §  
Hydrogen Sulfide §

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Att'y Docket No. 1856-00301  
Client Ref. No.: 98/003  
Date: January 8, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This paper is filed before any action on the merits in this case. Please enter the following amendments before examination. An Appendix is attached showing the changes that have been made to the originally filed specification and claims by underlining the new text and striking out the deleted text.

In the Drawings:

Please replace sheet 2/2 of the drawings, containing Fig. 2, with the enclosed replacement sheet 2/2 containing amended Fig. 2. A marked-up version of Fig. 2 is also appended showing by circling and/or marking in ink the prepared changes that have been made to the figure as originally filed.

In the Specification:

On page 4, please replace the second paragraph (lines 5-9) with the following paragraph:  
The process most commonly used to recover elemental sulfur from H<sub>2</sub>S gas is the modified Claus sulfur recovery process. The conventional Claus process is well known in the art, and is also